

We claim:

1. A body tissue cutting device comprising:

a handle section and a first and second grasping arms
extending from the handle section, said first and
5 second grasping arms being resiliently mounted to the
handle to allow closure of the grasping arms by hand,
said first and second grasping arms each having a
distal end with a grasping face, said grasping face on
each grasping arm aligned to meet the grasping face of
10 the other grasping arm upon closure of the grasping
arms;

a wire disposed upon the grasping face of the first
grasping arm so that it lies between the grasping face
of the first grasping arm and the grasping face of the
15 second grasping arm upon closure of the grasping arms,
said wire being operably connected to a source of
electrical power; said wire being secured to the
distal end of the first grasping arm and extending
proximally over the grasping face of the first
20 grasping arm toward the proximal end of the first
grasping arm.

2. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a resilient surface on the grasping face of the first
grasping arm, between the wire and the grasping face
25 of the arm.

3. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a sleeve covering the distal end of the first grasping
arm, thereby forming a surface on the grasping face of
the second grasping arm, said sleeve being separated
30 from the distal end of the first grasping arm by a
small fluid-filled gap.

4. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a resilient sleeve covering the distal end of the second grasping arm, thereby forming a resilient surface on the grasping face of the second grasping arm.

5 5. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a resilient surface on the grasping face of each of the first and second grasping arms.

6. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

10 a sleeve covering the distal end of the first grasping arm, thereby forming a surface on the grasping face of the first grasping arm, between the wire and the grasping face of the arm, said sleeve being distanced from the distal end by a small fluid-filled gap.

15 a resilient sleeve covering the distal end of the second grasping arm, thereby forming a resilient surface on the grasping face of the second grasping arm.

7. The device of claim 1 wherein the grasping arms comprise a pair of tweezers.

20 8. The device of claim 1 wherein the grasping arms comprise a forceps.

9. A medical device comprising:

25 a pair of tweezers characterized by a first arm and a second arm, each of said arm having a proximal end and distal end, said first arm having a first gripping face disposed on the distal end thereof, said second arm having second gripping face disposed on the distal end thereof, said gripping faces being defining surfaces generally perpendicular to a plane defined by the grasping arms, said surfaces being movable into

apposition with each other upon closing of the
tweezers;

a first layer of resilient material disposed on the
gripping face of the first arm;

5 a second layer of resilient material disposed on the
gripping face of the second arm;

10 a wire disposed between of the first and second layers
of resilient material so as to be trapped between the
gripping faces of the first and second arm upon
closing of the tweezers.

10. A medical device comprising:

15 a pair of forceps characterized by a first arm and a
second arm, each of said arm having a proximal end and
distal end, each of said arm being rotatably fixed to
the other at a midpoint thereof, said first arm having
a first gripping face disposed on the distal end
thereof, said second arm having second gripping face
disposed on the distal end thereof, said gripping
faces being defining surfaces generally perpendicular
20 to a plane defined by the grasping arms, said surfaces
being movable into apposition with each other upon
closing of the forceps;

a first layer of resilient material disposed on the
gripping face of the first arm;

25 a second layer of resilient material disposed on the
gripping face of the second arm;

30 a wire disposed between of the first and second layers
of resilient material so as to be trapped between the
gripping faces of the first and second arm upon
closing of the forceps.

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a wire disposed between of the first and second layers of resilient material so as to be trapped between the gripping faces of the first and second arm upon closing of the graspers.